



## **Regional Service Council Minutes Region # 10**

**Meeting Date:** January 11, 2008

**Meeting Location:** Choices, Indianapolis

**Council Members Present:** Chair Rhonda Allen, MCDCS; Maribryan McGeney, MCDCS; Mary Ann West, MCDCS; Taren Duncan, MCDCS; Susie Kennedy, MCDCS; Cindy Booth, Child Advocates; Maggie Cooper, Foster Parent; Judge Marilyn Moores, MC Juvenile Court; Judge Beth Jansen, MC Juvenile Court; D'Andrea Abdullah, MCDCS.

**Council Members Absent:** Judge Diana Burleson, MC Juvenile Court

**Others In Attendance:** Daniel Navarro, Children's Bureau; Janice Klein, Children's Bureau; Jon Bennett, Children's Bureau; Pam Guernsey, Lutheran; Kathy Ballard, St. Vincent; Laura Green, Family Works; Kara Woodworth, CAPP; A.J. Walker, Adult & Child; Shelvy Keglur Jr, Midwest; Misty Hills, Midwest; Karen Carlson, Midwest; Norma Stewart, NOAH; Pamela Lawrence, NOAH; C.L. Day, NOAH; George Brenner, Gallahue; Grant Gray, Adult & Child; Betty Funderburgh, Family Service; Sandy Rezmer, Dockside; Alisa Freedman, Dockside; Mike Johnson, Lutheran; Brant Ping, CAPP; Kellie Gunnell, CAPP

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| <b>Meeting Minutes</b> |
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**Meeting Called to Order at:** 9:10 a.m.

**I. Call the Meeting to Order**

**II. Approval of Minutes**

- a) There are no minutes from the last meeting at this time. The council is working on putting notes together from the last meeting as there was a computer issue and the original meeting minutes were lost. They will be addressed at next months meeting.

**III. Old Business**

**a) Mallon House Update**

- i) Klien gave an update on the Mallon House. The licensing has been submitted to DMHA. They expect feedback in early February. Klien doesn't think getting the licensing from DMHA will be a problem

but there is still a hang up with DCS. Klein stated Gallahue will provide the addiction services and Children's Bureau will provide the residential and service coordination. They will take five mothers and five children and offer mild support for fathers.

#### **IV. New Business**

##### **a) Home-based Proposal Scoring**

- i. The home-based proposals have been scored. All council members were given a sheet with all the agencies listed by rank of their scores from highest to lowest. The scoring committee felt the council needs to discuss how many agencies are needed. The committee recommends the top 6 agencies for contracts with negotiation about whether the next 4 agencies will be needed to meet the maximum capacity of referrals based on the numbers from the last two years. Another concern about these 4 agencies is that one of them is the highest priced agency. West then brought up that with the DCS practice reform it is anticipated that referrals will be put in at the beginning of a case and the service may be in place a little longer. This could make the referral numbers go up but the on-going availability of openings at the agencies go down. Therefore more agencies might be needed. Duncan stated she fears that if the number of referrals doesn't go up, we will have agencies back out of their contracts because we can't give them referrals. Ping stated he fears if we don't offer enough agencies contracts and the number of referrals do go up that we will have a waiting list of families needing this service. Duncan agreed she doesn't want families on a waiting list.
- ii. Allen asked the providers if they had any comments. Green stated she's glad to hear that home-based services are being put in the home sooner and Augenbergs agreed.
- iii. McGeney asked about the faith-based agencies. West stated the committee is recommending 2 top scoring faith-based agencies based on the fact that the number of faith-based referrals made in 2006 and 2007. These agencies are JUS Harmony and Open Hand.
- iv. Allen suggested offering contracts to the top 10 scoring agencies and the 2 top scoring faith-based agencies. Offering these agencies contracts will meet the maximum capacity of referrals that we have needed the past 2 years. Judge Moores asked if there were interviews with other stakeholders who use

the services like GAL's about the agencies that made proposals. West stated we only picked the agencies based on the proposal scores. Moores then suggested we do a survey to help decide which agencies we pick. West stated that there was not enough time if we wanted the new contracts to begin 3/1/08 as scheduled. Allen suggested we go ahead and choose the agencies but work on a process for interviews in the future.

- v. The motion was made to offer contracts to the top scoring 10 agencies and the top 2 scoring faith-based agencies. The motion was then seconded. An anonymous vote was made to accept the motion.

**b) Drug/Alcohol RFP**

- i. West met with Drug and Alcohol providers to see what are the best practices the agencies use. This will help her write the new RFP for this program. In the discussion, it was decided that contracting for detox and residential doesn't make much sense because it isn't needed very often and when it is needed, the contracted agency doesn't have an open bed or may not be the appropriate setting depending on the client's needs. When this happens the case manager has to find an agency that is not contracted with the county and has an open bed. At this time, an expenditure report must be done and signed by a supervisor and division manager before the client can actually begin the services. This can take up to 2 weeks to complete, by this time the client is no longer interested in completing the service or the bed is no longer available. With this information at hand West feels it is best not to contract for detox and residential services and speed up the expenditure process to get the client in a bed faster.
- ii. Ping stated he would like to find a way for DMHA to pay for this treatment.
- iii. The motion was made to take out the detox and residential part out of the RFP and not contracting for this service. The motion was seconded and voted for.
- iv. The Drug and Alcohol RFP is scheduled to be released at the end of January, 2008. It will contain services for evaluations, Random Urine Screens, Education, Out Patient and Intensive Out Patient.

**c) Transitional Living Rate Increase**

- i. Bennett stated that Children's Bureau has not received a rate increase since 2005. Last year they submitted an increase request and it was denied and they were told they could submit

another request when the contract would be up for renewal at the end of January 2008. He stated they are now losing money to provide the service and would like the council to consider a rate increase at this time. Midwest also requested a rate increase.

- ii. Duncan motioned to sit down with the 2 agencies that requested a rate increase and discuss a rate increase. The motion was seconded and voted for.

**d) QSR**

- i. Allen invited everyone to attend the announcements of the final scores from the DCS audits. It will take place January 18, 2008 at Light of the World from 10:00am to noon. These scores reflect how well DCS is helping families.

**e) Agency Survey by EIPC**

- i. Allen stated the EIPC sent out a survey to all agencies. She asked everyone to fill it out and send it back. Ping stated once the CEO survey is completed it will define the services that each agency provides. At this time another survey will go out to the program directors. Allen and Ping stressed the importance of filling out these surveys.

**Next Meeting Date, Location and Time:** February 22, 2008, 9:00 a.m. at Choices.

**Meeting Adjourned at:** 10:30am.